

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MBFR V 00079 261051Z
ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 EUR-12 H-01 INR-07
IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01
SAJ-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05 SSO-00 /090 W
-----261108 060302 /10

R 260938Z FEB 77
FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1997
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO ALL MBFR MISSIONS 0236
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY ANKARA BY POUCH
AMEMBASSY REYKJVAIK BY POUCH

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0079

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO
SUBJ: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: SUMMARY REPORT FOR PERIOD FEB 21-27

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. THE FEB 22 INFORMAL SESSION OF THE VIENNA
FORCE REDUCTION NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUED THE DISCUSSION OF COUNTING
RULES AND DATA. THE BURDEN OF EASTERN REMARKS ON THE SUBJECT
REMAINED THAT THE EAST HAD INCLUDED IN ITS FIGURES ALL WARSAW

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MBFR V 00079 261051Z

PACT MILITARY PERSONNEL IN THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS. EACH SIDE
EXPRESSED DOUBTS CONCERNING THE DATA TABLED BY THE OTHER.
END SUMMARY.

2. THE LARGER PART OF THE FEB 22. INFORMAL SESSION WAS DEVOTED
TO FURTHER DISCUSSION OF COUNTING RULES AND DATA. EASTERN REPS
RESPONDED TO SOME WESTERN QUESTIONS ON EASTERN COUNTING RULES

THAT HAD BEEN HELD OVER FROM THE PREVIOUS SESSION ON FEB 15, AND ASKED ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS ABOUT WESTERN COUNTING RULES. WESTERN REPS ANSWERED THESE QUESTIONS AND POSED FURTHER QUESTIONS OF THEIR OWN ON THE DATA THE EAST HAD SUPPLIED FOR WARSAW PACT FORCES. THE GENERAL TREND OF EASTERN REPLIES CONTINUED TO BE THAT THE EAST HAD INCLUDED IN THE FIGURES IT HAD TABLED LAST JUNE, ALL ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY PERSONNEL OF WARSAW PACT GROUND AND AIR FORCES IN THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS. IN ANSWERING A QUERY AS TO WHETHER THE WEST, LIKE THE EAST, HAD USED THE "ROSTER PRINCIPLE" IN COMPILING ITS DATA, WESTERN REPS CONFIRMED THAT THEIR DATA ON THE FORCES OF NATO DIRECT PARTICIPANTS IN THE AREA WERE BASED ON ACTUAL NUMERICAL STRENGTH.

3. IN THE COURSE OF DISCUSSING COUNTING RULES AND DATA, EASTERN REPS STATED THAT WESTERN FIGURES DID NOT CORRESPOND TO ACTUAL FACTS AND WERE TOO LARGE FOR WARSAW PACT FORCES AND TOO SMALL FOR THOSE OF NATO. WESTERN REPS UNDERLINED THE INCONSISTENCY BETWEEN THE DATA PROVIDED BY THE EAST ON WARSAW PACT FORCES AND PREVIOUS EASTERN BEHAVIOUR POINTING TO RECOGNITION BY THE EAST OF A SUBSTANTIAL MILITARY MANPOWER DISPARITY IN ITS FAVOR. THEY RECALLED, FOR EXAMPLE, PERSISTENT ARGUMENTS MADE EARLIER BY EASTERN REPS THAT, SINCE THE WEST ALLEGEDLY EMPLOYED LARGE NUMBERS OF CIVILIAN PERSONNEL IN THE ARMED FORCES WHO PERFORMED FUNCTIONS CARRIED OUT ON THE EASTERN SIDE BY MILITARY PERSONNEL, THE LATTER SHOULD BE EXCLUDED FROM WARSAW PACT MANPOWER TOTALS.

4. THE EASTERN GENERAL STATEMENT, WHICH OPENED THE SESSION, DWELT ON THE REQUIREMENT FOR A CLEAR AND PRECISE FIRST-STAGE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 MBFR V 00079 261051Z

DECLARATION BY NON-US WESTERN DIRECT PARTICIPANTS OF THEIR COMMITMENTS AS REGARDS THE TIMING AND GENERAL SCOPE OF THEIR TROOP REDUCTIONS IN A SECOND STAGE. THE REFUSAL OF THESE WESTERN PARTICIPANTS TO UNDERTAKE SUCH COMMITMENTS WAS REFERRED TO AS THE PRIMARY IMPEDIMENT TO THE WORKING OUT OF A FIRST-STAGE AGREEMENT. THE WESTERN GENERAL STATEMENT IDENTIFIED THE CONTINUED FAILURE OF THE EAST TO GIVE A SERIOUS AND POSITIVE RESPONSE TO THE WESTERN PROPOSALS OF DECEMBER 16, 1975, AS THE MAIN PROBLEM CONFRONTING THE NEGOTIATIONS.

5. IN RECENT EAST-WEST BILATERAL EXCHANGES, EASTERN REPS HAVE MADE CLEAR THEIR EXPECTATION THAT THE DATA DISCUSSION, WHICH WILL BE RESUMED AT NEXT WEEK'S INFORMAL SESSION IN THE SAME FORMAT AS WAS FOLLOWED ON FEBRUARY 22, WOULD DOMINATE THE BALANCE OF THE CURRENT ROUND. THEY HAVE FURTHER SUGGESTED THAT A LOGICAL NEXT STEP WOULD BE TO MOVE TO THE CONSIDERATION OF NATIONAL TOTALS, STARTING WITH THOSE FOR US AND SOVIET FORCES. EASTERN COMMENTS HAVE, HOWEVER, BEEN SOMEWHAT CONTRADICTORY AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THE EAST WOULD AGREE TO BEGIN EXAMINING

US AND SOVIET FIGURES WITHOUT NATIONAL DATA FOR THE OTHER DIRECT PARTICIPANTS BEING PLACED ON THE TABLE SIMULTANEOUSLY.

6. FRG REP BEHRENDT MADE THE ONLY STATEMENT AT THE FEB 24 PLENARY MEETING. HIS PRESENTATION REVIEWED THE MAIN REASONS WHY ANY AGREEMENT ON REDUCTIONS AND LIMITATIONS MUST TAKE GEOGRAPHY INTO ACCOUNT. FRG REP ALSO CALLED UPON THE EAST TO OPEN THE WAY TO EARLY PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS BY GIVING AN ADEQUATE RESPONSE TO THE DECEMBER 1975 WESTERN PROPOSALS. RESOR

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING REPORTS, NEGOTIATIONS, MUTUAL FORCE REDUCTIONS, FORCE & TROOP LEVELS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MBFRV00079
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770067-0837
Format: TEL
From: MBFR VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977026/aaaaaexs.tel
Line Count: 126
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: be95acc9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3370021
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: SUMMARY REPORT FOR PERIOD FEB 21-27
TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/be95acc9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009